CITY of ELGIN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 16, 1998

COUNCILORS PRESENT- Kevin Cooper
Pat McMullen
John Stover
Berta Churchill

ABSENT- Leroy Short
John McElravy
Rick Smith - Mayor

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Council President Kevin Cooper.

Good of the Order
Budget Hearing

President Cooper open the budget hearing for the 1998-99 City budget. He asked if there were any adjustments to be suggested from the budget approved by the budget committee. Mr. Garlitz informed the Council that the beginning cash could be increased from $250,000 to $300,000. He also noted that the office copier was beginning to show its age, requiring frequent service calls. Mr. Garlitz requested that the Council consider hiring a file clerk for 2 or 3 months this summer to re-organize the City's records. Moving into the new office, is an opportune time to get the records organized.

Councilor Stover said that there was enough money budgeted for office equipment, in the City Hall fund to cover the cost of a new copier. After further discussion
Councilor Stover moved to increase the General Fund beginning cash to $300,000 and to increase Administration Extra Labor by $2,800 to cover the cost of a temporary file clerk, with Councilor McMullen as second. The vote was unanimous for approval, motion carried.

President Cooper asked for discussion of other items in the budget. Sharon Stover was present. She stated that she was concerned that public money should not be given to a private club, referring to the $20,000 for the Stampeders approved by the budget committee. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the need for the Stampeders to be more accountable to the community, if they are to receive public funds. There was also a discussion as to how the public would benefit from giving money to the Stampeders.

President Cooper indicated that there would be a substantial public benefit in keeping the Stampede facilities in good repair, in that this is a resource that serves the whole community. It was noted that the City Council, every 10 years, reviews the property tax exemption for the Stampede property. The exemption is given if the Council determines that the property is used to provide a substantial public benefit.

At this time, President Cooper informed the Council that he has done some consulting for the Stampeders' regarding obtaining funds for the Stampede grandstands, however, he would not receive any personal financial benefit if funding were to be received.

Councilor McMullen stated that by adopting a budget item, did not guarantee that the Council would in fact approve the expenditure. It was also noted that any contribution to the Stampeders' would be specifically for the grandstand reconstruction and would be made upon conditions related to obtaining enough other funding to complete the project. Selina Shaffer, Stampede treasurer was present. Stampeders' were willing to fully cooperate with the City and the community as a whole, to make the facilities available for the economic benefit of the community. She said that in the last several years, the Club has made an effort to turn its financial situation around and to upgrade its facilities so they can continue to have a rodeo. She also stated that she would like participation in the Club from the City Council, to bring the two entities closer together.

President Cooper asked if there were any other persons wishing to comment on the budget. Jared Rogers of Boise Cascade was present. He said he was concerned regarding the article in the Recorder indicating that Boise Cascade was not responsive to the City regarding water charges. Councilor Stover stated that there was a concern that the City was bearing the cost of pumping water to 120 psi that really only benefits Boise Cascade. Mr. Rogers said he was available to discuss any issues the City had regarding the mill. He noted that the City of La Grande charged that mill the out-of-town rates where Elgin did not charge the out-of-town premium to the mill here. Mr. Rogers said he would be at the next regular City Council meeting in July to discuss the City's concerns.

President Cooper asked for other comments. With no other comments, Councilor McMullen moved to adopt the budget as presented by the budget committee with the changes made by the previous motion, with Councilor Churchill as second. The vote was three for approval, with Councilor Stover voting in opposition, motion carried.

Parsons Conditional Use Hearing

President Cooper opened a public hearing on a request for a conditional use to establish a beauty salon in the residential zone. The hearing is to consider the application of Laura Parsons, agent for Amber & Kim Schaeffer. The property is located on Cedar Street at the southeast corner of the intersection of Cedar and the private access to the duplexes south of Cedar (S.7th); tax lot 1N 39 15DD #1500. The lot is approximately 75'x 70'.It is requested to establish a business in the house at this location. The business will be for hair cutting and a beauty salon. Off-street parking will be provided for customers.

Mrs. Parsons and Tonya Evans described their plans to operate the business. Notice of the hearing was mailed to all residents within 300 feet of the property. A letter was submitted by Harold and Kathleen Sutton. The Suttons' stated that the proposal was "ok" with them. Dale Durfee had stopped at the office and he too stated that he had no objection to the proposal. No one else was present to offer testimony.

After discussion, Councilor Stover moved to approve the conditional use as proposed in the application, with Councilor Churchill as second. The vote was unanimous for approval, motion carried.

Transportation Advisory Committee

The Council must provide a Transportation Advisory Council to represent to City's interest in developing a transportation plan for the City and ODOT. Councilor McMullen suggested that the City Council act as the advisory committee. Glen Clark was present and indicated that he would be interested in serving on the committee. After discussion Councilor Stover moved have the City Council, and other community members to be on the committee, including Glen Clark and the Administrator, with Councilor Churchill as second. The vote was unanimous for approval, motion carried. The City will solicit participation of other community members.

Other business

Councilor McMullen stated that he has had complaints regarding Mr. Reynolds burning prohibited materials in the process of removing a trailer house at 13th and Albany. Complaints of the same nature have been received by the police department.

With no other business for the Council, Councilor Churchill moved to adjourn, with Councilor Stover as second. The vote was unanimous for approval, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted;

Joe Garlitz,
Recorder/Administrator